



For Internal Use Only/For Official Use Only

September 21, 2017 12:37 ET

HURRICANE HARVEY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources. The FEMA Senior Leadership Briefing is attached.

National Incident Management Objectives

- Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA response is considered at all times.
- Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.
- Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.
- Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.
- Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and waste water systems.
- Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.
- Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to insure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.
- Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.
- Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination, under the National Disaster Recovery Framework, regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

Executive Summary

- Speaker of the House of Representatives, is expected to visit the Houston Branch on September 21st.
- Corpus Christi and Port Arthur/Beaumont Branches have transitioned all future assessment and recovery operations to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Regional Offices and are sampling and dismantling the staging pads. EPA and the TCEQ are preparing transition memos for each Branch.
- The Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) have completed monitoring near targeted facilities in all branches yesterday with both teams planning to demobilize on September 21st.
- Unified Command has completed its reconnaissance and collection of orphan containers in areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.
- EPA field activities continue for disposal of over 950 containers of miscellaneous materials, spill response, debris staging and landfill observation teams and community assistance program to share federal and state guidance to individuals that are dealing with potential hazards in damage or lost homes. Disposal is expected to take up to three weeks and a small team will remain on-site to complete this activity.
- Texas has requested EPA oversight of an asphalt emulsion spill from L.D. Construction Company in Jefferson County. The Responsible Party response to date is inadequate. Four homes have been impacted. EPA has contacted the facility manager to verbally issue a Notice of Federal Interest and will issue a hardcopy on September 21st.
- On September 19th, TCEQ received a report of a waterline break with an apparent oil sheen at the Port Arthur RV Resort. The report alleged that the break occurred on August 31st. On September 20th, TCEQ drinking water responders arrived on scene and determined the release was not from the city water supply. United States Coast Guard contractors responded to place boom and sorbent pads until further assessment and appropriate response can be conducted on September 21st.
- A Federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Austin.
- R6 responded to a large tank fire at the Valero Port Arthur Refinery. The fire occurred at 12:10 CT and was extinguished in one hour. R6 is conducting air monitoring with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).
- The state cost-share for response activities increases to 10 percent match (from zero) including EPA-led operations under Emergency Support Function #10 (ESF-10). This cost share arrangement begins at midnight on September 21st. EPA is coordinating with the state of Texas to identify ESF-10 operations that will continue after September 21st.
- EPA completed sample collection at 34 Texas Superfund sites. EPA has released 27 post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey website.
- Community Liaison teams plan to demobilize October 23rd.

Region 6 Significant Activities

The Region 6 Region Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is currently activated and working under a limited ESF-10 FEMA Mission Assignment (MA). EPA has received MAs totaling \$12.5 million for recovery operations to include assisting Texas with drinking water, wastewater, and hazmat recovery operations. FEMA announced plans to fund mission assignments in five-day increments.

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$12,192,000	Region 6 field operations including identifying and assessing impacts to drinking water and wastewater critical infrastructure; assisting in the implementation of the Response Manager tracking system; emergency response to oil and hazardous materials discharges/releases; and augmenting personnel for response operations.
4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000	Deployment of EPA to various locations, including but not limited to TX SEOC and the FEMA RRCC to support response operations.
Total	\$12,467,000	

Number of Region 6 Personnel Involved

Personnel	EPA R6 Dallas	FEMA Denton	Texas JFO Austin	TX SEOC Austin	TCEQ Austin	Houston	Corpus Christi	Beaumont/ Port Arthur	Total
Region 6	55	0	3	1	0	47	22	15	143
Contractors	6	0	0	1	0	22	10	24	63
Total	61	0	3	2	0	69	32	39	206

Debris Recovery Operations

A Federal Debris Management Taskforce was established at the JFO in Austin with EPA serving as a member. Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. EPA and TCEQ observers visited 29 debris sites on September 20th with more site visits scheduled over the next 30 days. FEMA has reported that 154 debris sites have been approved. A Federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Austin.

Container Recovery Operations

This chart includes daily and cumulative data on container recovery:

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date – Containers and Cylinders					
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]	Cylinders	Total
9/20/2017	4	0	6	0	10
Total	427	397	43	120	987

Corpus Christi Branch

The Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery teams closed four targets and opened one in Rockport and Key Allegro.

Houston Branch

The ER/Orphan Container Recovery Team recovered a 2,500-gallon tote of unknown liquid. Oil Discharge Assessment Teams sampled four totes, recovered two drums, and a polypropylene container. Hazard Evaluation Teams assessed a debris line target and identified approximately 14 containers requiring recovery.

Beaumont/Port Arthur Branch

All containers from the Port Arthur/Beaumont staging area have been received. Approximately 30 containers were sampled and approximately 20 containers were field screened for hazardous categories on September 21st.

ER/Orphan Container Recovery teams safely recovered and retrieved a chemical tote from the Beaumont Yacht Club. Hazard Evaluation (HE) teams investigated two targets in south Port Arthur and both targets were cleared. HE teams also verified that all targets near Benchmark Oil & Gas Co. in Orange were being addressed by the responsible party.

Emergency and Field Response Operations

Region 6 continues to collect and stage recovered orphan containers. No changes reported on timeline for completion in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Beaumont.

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/20/2017	Number of Targets	9/20/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	0	5	106
Houston	0	0	3	402
Port Arthur/Beaumont	0	0	0	135
NRC Reports	0	0	0	5
Total	0	0	8	648
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item. All Open Targets have been evaluated and recovered or closed.				

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (non-vessels)				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/20/17	Number of Facilities/Spills	9/20/17	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	0	0	33
Houston	0	0	0	77
Port Arthur/Beaumont	0	3	0	23
NRC Reports	0	8	3	121
Total	0	11	3	254
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location.				

Number of Field Team Personnel on September 20 th				
Team Type	Corpus Christi	Houston	Port Arthur/ Beaumont	Total
Hazard Evaluation	0	1	2	3
Hazard Evaluation Debris	2	8	0	10
Oil Discharge Assessment	0	2	0	2
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	0	6	1	7
Oil/Vessel Recovery	6	0	0	6
Staging Areas	0	1	1	2
Air Operations	0	1	0	1
Air Monitoring	1	0	0	1
Vessels	0	0	1	1
Total	9	19	5	33

Superfund NPL Sites

- The San Jacinto Waste Pits site remains uncleared and cap repair continues. The Responsible Party submitted, and EPA approved the cap repair work plan on September 15th.
- EPA provided oversight to potentially responsible parties (PRPs) and independently collected samples at 34 Texas Superfund sites and 9 Louisiana sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. EPA received preliminary data for 40 sites and expects to receive results for the remaining 3 sites, located in Louisiana, on September 20th. EPA has publicly reported on 27 sites. Final data packages are anticipated within two weeks.
- All 43 Superfund sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 42 sites have been cleared.

Air Monitoring

The TAGA teams completed monitoring ahead of schedule at the list of targeted facilities on September 20th. The on-scene coordinators, air technical support teams, and the two TAGAs are planned to demobilize on September 21st.

TAGA Team 1 conducted air monitoring areas surrounding Valero Three Rivers Refinery in Three Rivers, Texas. No monitored readings exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels on September 20th.

The TAGA Team 2 conducted air monitoring in areas surrounding ExxonMobil Beaumont Colonial Storage, BASF Beaumont, Sunoco Hebert Terminal, Motiva Beaumont Terminal, Clark Port Arthur Pipeline Company, Beaumont Marine West Terminal, INVISTA Orange, Chevron Phillips

Chemical - Polyethylene Plant, and Firestone Orange. No monitored readings exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

Drinking Water/Wastewater Assessments

EPA's collaborative work with the state has ensured the return of 1,945 community water systems to fully operational status. These systems cover 99% of the population in the greater Houston area (7.23 out of 7.26 million served).

EPA Headquarters Significant Activities:

The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of the Region 6 response for Hurricane Harvey. The HQ EOC is coordinating with Region 6 and other Federal agencies. Personnel have also deployed to the FEMA NRCC to staff the ESF-10 desk. EPA Senior Management that comprise the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Harvey.

Headquarters Mission Assignments

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$10,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
4332DR-TX-EPA-02	\$40,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
Total	\$50, 000	

Number of HQ Personnel Involved in the EOC

Personnel	AO	OAR	OARM	OCFO	OCSP	OECA	OEI	OGC	OLEM	ORD	OW	PIO	ATSDR	Totals
Employees	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	14	0	1	1	1	25
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	16	0	1	1	1	27

Fuel Waivers

EPA issued No Action Assurance (NAA) Extensions to TCEQ on September 15th, on Loading of Tank Fuel Trucks at Petroleum Distribution Terminals, Landing Roofs on Gasoline Storage Vessels, and the Use of Vapor Recovery Systems. The extensions expire on September 22nd at 11:59 PM CDT. The NAA letters are available to the public on www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey and a press release was issued highlighting these three NAA letters.

Affected State	Waiver Request	Date Received	Status Talking Point	Waiver Response
Reid Vapor Pressure Requirements Waivers				
TX	Letter from TCEQ requesting a waiver of the RVP, RFG and TxLED standards in the Governor's Disaster Proclamation.	8/25/17	Extended to October 1st	https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas
LA	Letter from LA governor requesting a waiver of the low RVP requirements.	8/28/17	Granted on 8/28/17	https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/louisianafuelswaiver082817.pdf
AR	The state is drafting a waiver request to temporarily waive the requirement for low 9.0lb RVP fuel.	8/31/17	N/A	N/A
OK	A statewide low RVP fuel waiver request was submitted and then the request was amended.	8/28/17	8/30/17	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers
Dyed NRLM Diesel Fuel Waiver				
TX	Letter from TX comptroller requesting a waiver of using dyed NRLM diesel fuel in motor vehicles.	8/29/17	Granted on 8/29/17; IRS expanded to cover all of TX on 9/3/17	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/texas-diesel-waiver
Low Volatility Conventional Gasoline and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG)				
Multi State*	<p>*CT, ME, MA, NH, RH, VT, DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, and PA, FL, GA, NC, SC, VA, and WV; all mid-western states located in *PADD 2 - IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, OH, OK, TN, and WI; and all Gulf coast states located in PADD 3 -AL, AR, LA, MS, NM, and TX</p> <p>Issuance of waivers based on requests for the allowance of regulated parties within the listed states to produce, sell, or distribute conventional winter gasoline (including BOBs) with an RVP of 11.5 psi before the addition of any ethanol in any RFG covered area. The waiver for El Paso goes until September 16th due to their State Implementation Plan requirements.</p>	8/30/17	Expired; no longer needed	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers

*PADD: Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts

Communications

- EPA continues to work with TCEQ to issue press releases.